



DOUBLE EXPOSURE! Sometimes Evil is so cleverly disguised that it can fool people into mistaking it for Good. As this picture shows, however, the bad ones never get away with it forever; and here Durango brings his double to book!

Charles Starrett as THE DURANGO KID. Feb.-March, 1950. Vol. 1, No. 3. Published bi-monthly by Magazine Enterprises, Inc. Published to office, 420 De Soto Ave, St. Louis, 7, Moj. Editorial and Executive offices, 11 Park Place, New York 7, N. Y. Publisher, Vincent Sullivan; Editor, Raymond C. Krank, Application for second-class entry is pending at the post office at St. Louis, Mo. Subscription in U.S.A., 75 for six issues, Entire contents copyrighted 1950 by Magazine Enterprises, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons and/or institutions is therether than the title character, appearing in this magazine and those of any living or dead person or institution is intended and any such similarity that may exist is purely coldental. Printed in the U.S.A.



















THE DURANGO KID'S BEEN TERRORIZING THE TERRITORY FOR SEVERAL WEEKS . TWO RUSTLING JOBS LAST WEEK AND A PAYROLL ROBBERY. ONLY THIS VERY AFTER-NOON HE ROBBED A STAGE, KILLED THE

DRIVER AND GUARD. THE TOWN'S RED HOT MAD AND OUT







NO. A SHORT WHILE LATER, A DARK FIGURE ON A WHITE HORSE FLEES WITH THE SPEED OF WIND DOWN THE POST ROAD --THE DURANSO KID!

NOW-IF I CAN FIND THE PLACE WHERE THAT STAGE ROBBERY TOOK PLACE THIS AFTERNOON—THE ONE DOC SLADE TOLD US ABOUT—



HEL-LO / BY THUNDER - IT'S MIGHTY QUEER THAT NO ONE'S BROUGHT THE STAGE AND THE BODIES INTO TOWN YET













BUT THE DIVERSION GIVES THE DURANGO KID JUST THE SPLIT SECOND HE NEEDS!

GOOD OLD TAKE COVER, MEN! MULEY! BLESS IT'S AGOIN' TUH BE A SHOOTIN' FIGHT! HIM!

NEVER WAS HAPPIER TO SEE YOU, MULEY!

BUT HOW COME YOU'RE HERE?





RUN FOR IT, MULEY- I DON'T RELISH A SHOOT-ING FIGHT WITH HONEST MEN JUST TRYING TO DO THEIR DUTY-EVEN IF THEY'RE MISTAKEN!























































































I'M SHORE GRATEFUL,
DURANGO-WE NIGH
DID YUH A TURRIBLE
INJUSTICE! EF'N
YUH'LL COME BACK
TUH TOWN WITH
US, WE'LL
TREAT YUH
RIGHT ROYAL
TUH MAKE UP
PER THUH
HARM WE
DONE YUH!

THANKS, SHERIFF, BUT
THERE'S A LOT I GOT TO DO
ELSEWHERE. I'M HITTING THE
TRAIL AGAIN, WITH MULEY
HERE - ER - UH - AVO WITH
STEVE BRAND, TOO, OF COURSE!
NOVI I WONDER WHAT
HAPPENED TO HIM. ?

















YES, I DO! I M ON MY WAY TO FANG ROCK TO FILE CLAIM TO SOME RANCHLAND LEFT ME BY MY UNCLE. UNLESS I FILE CLAIM BY TOMORPOW WOON, THE DEED GOES TO A LAWYER BY THE NAME OF JED PATCH, WHO HAS DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO PREVENT ME FROM REACHING





ON TIME!

































































JUD PATCH IS THE NAME. I GOT IT IN FOR THE DURANGO KID. THAT'S WHY I'M THAT'S WHY IM
WILLING TO HELP YOU
OUT. NOW, NEITHER
YOU OR I WANT YOUR
GIRL FRIEND TO GET
THAT RANCH - SO
THAT MAKES US
PALS, SEE?



NOW, LISTEN! SHE JUST BOUGHT A HERD OF BREEDER CATTLE TO START HER RANCH WITH. IT'S ON ITS WAY HERE RIGHT NOW. IF WE CAN BUY OFF THE GUYS BRINGING IN THAT HERD...



























































I ALMOST DID A TERRIBLE
THING, RITA—AND I'M ASHAMED OF
MYSELF. BUT I'LL MAKE IT UP TO
YOU! I'M STAYING HERE, IF
YOU'LL HAVE ME...





MEXT DAY, WITH PATCH AND HIS MEN SAFELY
BEHIND BARS...
PIGUT I AND I'M GOING TO





JOEY LOOKED UP sidewise at his Pop, fixing in his mind the exact details of the way his father stood, and then he adjusted his own position accordingly. He let his belly out a little and, because he was only twelve years old and his belly was lean and flat and hard, he had to arch his back a bit to get the right effect. He scowled, dug his toe into the hoof-churned earth, fingered an imaginary stubble on his chin, and nodded his head gravely.

Inside him, the excitement was gathering into a dancing lump he could hardly control. He listened eagerly to what the Sheriff, leaning loosely out of his saddle, was telling Pop.

We got Bootsie trapped this time fer shore, Shanks. Almost had 'im in the gun fight this mornin' at thuh gulch. Took his bronc an' his gunbelt right off'n him. But thuh slippery owlhoot done got hisself through the gap an' hotfotted it 'cross thuh badlands. Got half muh men down thar, flushin' 'im this way. I need yore help.'

"You got it, Sheriff," said Joey's father, He reached inside the cabin, picked his gunbelt off the hook near the door and began heading for his horse.

Joey followed.

The Sheriff nudged his mount alongside them. "T'ain't no cinch," he said, "We didn't get his gun, an' thuh cuss still got one slug left in it. An' Bootsie don't waste no lead!

Mr. Shanks grunted and swung onto his bay. Joey grunted, too, and climbed the fleet and mischievous pinto that was his. The two men loped off to join the rest of the posse, with Joey and his pinto frolicking after.

But suddenly, upon reaching the others, both Mr. Shanks and the Sheriff reined in their mounts at the same time, sent each other a quizzical look and then turned in their saddles to gaze down at Joey.

"Jist tell me, button," rumbled the Sheriff,

"whar in thunder be yuh figgerin' tuh go?"
"I'm comin' along," said Joey, sticking out his chin. But he could feel the lower lip trembling and the tears starting at the corners of his eyes and the old, old feeling of shame and anger inside because he was being left out of

"This here ain't no picnic fer babies," said the Sheriff. "Now yuh be a good kid an' stay whar yuh belong, out uv thuh way. Now jist vamoose, button!"

"I'm comin' along," Joey said again, But he

knew he was losing.

The Sheriff looked at Mr. Shanks, Joey's father's eyes crinkled a bit and the corners of his mouth twitched. He looked steadily at his son. "Stay here, Joey," he said. Then he wheeled his horse and cantered off, knowing his word was law. Laughing, the Sheriff and his men followed.

The pinto arched his head around and re-

garded Joey with a questioning eye.

"Think they're big stuff 'cause they're grownup," Joey told the pinto as he led him back to the corral. "Why, doggone, Stingeryou an' me kin run little rings 'round them and their big clumsy old broncs any day!"

And later, as he sat on the stoop and traced circles in the dust with a finger, feeling very angry and righteous, he thought it all over again. When I grow up, he thought, I sure won't forget kids got feelings, too! Doggone -in lots of ways kids can do more than grownups. There's special jobs that kids kin do, I'm quicker than they are, I can get in and out of little places. I don't get tired so fast, kin keep movin' and runnin' all day, if I gotta-an' no aches an' pains thuh next day. Shucks, what's so big about them, anyway--'ceptin' their size? And their size sure kin be a handicap sometimes, too. No sir, I ain't gonna' forget about kids when I grow up!

He froze when he saw the shadow on the ground. There was no need to look up. Something inside told him who it was. He heard the hard breathing and quite suddenly the top of his head began to itch and a wave of goosepimples ran an icy tide down the back of his neck. The dusty but finely tooled boots appeared then just within the upper range of his vision and in a flash he saw the great gnarled hands reaching for him.

But the hands closed on empty air and there was a bark of surprise. Joey leaned against the doorway, where he had jumped, and hung onto the doorknob. For a panicky moment, he thought he was not going to get it open.

But it gave.

Bootsie's eyes were red. The brush had scratched his face and torn his clothing so that trickles of clotted blood stained the great beery face and his vest hung in tatters from his mountainous shoulders.

"Look here, kid," Bootsie said, "I ain't goin' tuh hurt yuh-ef yuh keep yore yap shut." He moved for Joey, stroking the gun that was stuck into the belt of his levis.

Joey backed into the cabin. Bootsie followed. "Lookee, kid, I jist want some food an' I'm on muh way. Now be a nice kiddo-I

ain't goin' tuh hurt yuh none."

Joey backed off, till he felt his rear bump against the irons of the fireplace. Bootsie kept coming on. Panic, fear, plans raced through Joey's head. Behind Bootsie he could see the door swinging open and shut with the breeze.

"Got one slug left," he remembered the

Sheriff saying,

Suddenly, he looked past Bootsie's shoulders and yelled at the top of his voice, "POP!"

The gun flew into Bootsie's hand, He whirled and fired, And then, slowly, he lowered his gun, stupidly looking at the splintered door and the empty spaces beyond.

The man yelled a great yell of rage and turned, hurling the useless gun at Joey. Joey ducked and the gun clanged against the stone behind him. Bootsie lunged for him, but quick as lightning, Joey changed direction and slithered across the floor, feeling the man's hands fumble for his leg and miss. Then he was through the doorway, his heart pounding.

Bootsie dove for him, but he was no match for quick Joey. Dodging, grunting, lunging, he chased Joey all around the yard, but it was like a great bear trying to pin a will-o-thewisp. Joey almost began to enjoy it.

"Come an' get me, yuh clumsy-footed ol' cow!" he yelled, standing just out of reach and dancing on his toes like a boxer.

The outlaw stopped and wiped the sweat off his face. Thickly, through his desperation, he began to realize that the shot he had thrown away would bring the posse back upon him. He had to get away, tarnation take the kid! He turned and lumbered off toward

the woods beyond the cabin.

Toev watched his retreat with dismay. He had to keep the man there until the posse came back! He raced to the corral, leapfrogged onto Stinger's back and clattered after Bootsie. He wheeled the pinto around in front of the stung owlhoot and sent him reeling back, out of reach of Stinger's flash-ing hoofs. Then he began running rings around the man. Cursing thickly, and eloquently, the outlaw ducked, rolled and came up reaching, trying to tear the boy off the saddle. He missed and his brain went solid red with rage. He lunged after the dancing little pony and its wiry rider, out to kill.

Finally, a great hairy paw lashed out as the pony flashed by, caught the boy's shirt and suddenly Joey found himself dangling in the air and being brought close to the wild face of the gunman. Bootsie brought his other

hand up to Joey's neck.

Joey kicked, hard. His sharp pointed boot caught the gunman in the shin and quick hot tears of pain flooded the man's eyes. He dropped Joey like a hot branding-iron and hopped, yelling, on one leg. Joey lay sprawled on the ground, gasping for air. His hand felt a rock and suddenly, a quick image of David and Goliath flashing through his mind, he stood, took careful aim, and hurled. The rock caught Bootsie square on the forehead.

The outlaw looked surprised. For a moment it almost seemed that he grinned stupidly. Then his eyes rolled up and he fell flat on his

face, still.

Some minutes later, when the Sheriff, Joey's Pop, and the others came thundering into the yard, they saw a strange sight that brought them up short with a yell. Joey, mounted on Stinger, was hauling the outlaw around the yard like a roped steer. The lariat was tied to both of Bootsie's feet and the outlaw, screaming frustration, was trying to squirm loosea futile operation, for every time he moved, Joey and Stinger would pull him, bouncing for a distance across the yard.

"Wal, I'll be a short-nosed, blitherin', crossbranded spalpeen!" roared the Sheriff. He dismounted, cut loose the outlaw, who by now was weeping like a baby, and motioned to the

deputies to keep the man covered.

Mr. Shanks silently got off his horse, went over to Joey, lifted him off the saddle and looked down at him as though he had never seen his son before.

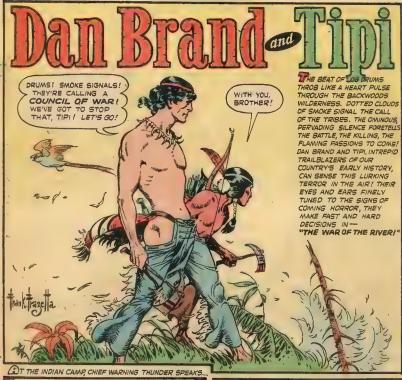
Joey suddenly, then, not knowing why, got scared. He started to shiver. Tears filled his eyes. "Yuh see?" he asked, "Yuh see? Kids are good for somethin'!" That was all he could think of to say.

Mr. Shanks and the Sheriff looked down at the boy with wonder, a gentle warmth nudging their hearts softly.

"In lots uv ways," said the Sheriff at last, scratching his head, "they're a whole lot better than most!"

And he took the Deputy Sheriff badge of one of his own men and solemnly pinned it on Joey's chest!











I SAY THAT THIS WILL ONLY LEAD TO MORE WARS THAT WILL WIPE OUT ALL OF US! WE MUST FIND WAYS OF LIVING IN PEACE WITH THE WHITE MAN!

























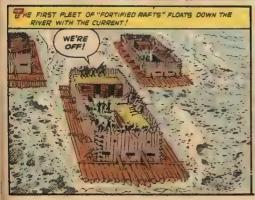




DAN LEADS THE SETTLERS TO A NEARBY PINE FOREST AND SOON A MIGHTY ACTIVITY CLAMORS THROUGH THE WILDERNESS...

TIM-BER!



















































IF YOU LIKE THE DURANGO KID, WATCH FOR HIM AT YOUR LOCAL THEATRES! THREE OF HIS LATEST MOTION PICTURE THRILLERS ARE: BANDITS OF EL DORADO — RENEGADES OF THE SAGE — AND FRONTIER OUTPOST! DON'T MISS THEM!





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